



Canine Companions - Assisting Crime Victims in Indiana

December 14, 2010 - Indianapolis

The **Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault (INCASA)** in partnership with the **Indiana Canine Assistant Network** is honored to bring Ellen O'Neill-Stephens JD and Celeste Walsen DVM of **Courthouse Dogs LLC** (www.courthousedogs.com) to Indianapolis for a one day training session.

Join us for an informative, lively and hands-on presentation about how the use of professionally trained facility service dogs,

trained by inmates at Indiana's correctional facilities and handled by criminal justice professionals at the Boone County Prosecutor's Office, are assisting victims and witnesses during the investigation and prosecution of crimes.

Not only do these canine companions provide a sense of security and comfort during these stressful proceedings, they can also make a difference between a conviction and acquittal.

INCASA established the pilot for this type of program and is ready to expand its use throughout our local communities to assist judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officers, counselors, and victim advocates in a more humane search for the truth and justice.

ESEC Center-700 North High School Road, Indianapolis, IN
December 14, 2010 - 9:00 AM to 5:00PM

Learning objectives : Upon completion of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- ☑ Evaluate whether a canine companion program would be beneficial for their victim advocacy program or courtroom.
- ☑ Readily access up-to-date information and research on the use of canine companions with adult and child victims.
- ☑ Facilitate the development of a canine companion program for their agency.
- ☑ Describe three uses of a canine companion in working with victims.
- ☑ Discuss four important considerations in the successful integration of a canine companion into a professional office environment.



About the Presenters:

Ellen O'Neill-Stephens JD is a senior deputy prosecuting attorney in Seattle, Washington; a pioneer in the use of dogs to provide emotional support in the criminal justice system; and the founder of Courthouse Dogs. Since 2003, she has promoted the use of highly trained assistance dogs to provide comfort to children and adults who are victims or witnesses of crimes and support juveniles and adults in mental health and drug courts.

Celeste Walsen DVM works with criminal justice facilities to teach staff members the practicalities of using highly trained dogs in victim/witness support programs. As Executive Director of Courthouse Dogs, Dr. Walsen is currently working to develop nationally recognized guidelines that will equip victim advocates, forensic interviewers, prosecuting attorneys, and other legal professionals to effectively employ dogs to provide support for vulnerable people of all ages.

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Registration



(please make additional copies if needed—one name per registration)

Name and Title: _____

Agency: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

\$45 per person _____ Check enclosed _____ Please invoice

Box lunch will be provided (please indicate if vegetarian meal needed) _____ Yes _____ No

Please fax or mail registrations by December 6th.

Cancellations after December 8th result in no refund due to cost of materials and lunch.
Confirmation emails will be sent—email tfulcher@incasa.org with questions.

*INCASA, 26 Arsenal Avenue, 3rd Floor, Indianapolis, IN 46201
www.incasa.org tfulcher@incasa.org fax 317-423-0237*

Parking available in the back of the facility.

Continuing Education Credits for:

____ Law Enforcement ____ Mental Health ____ Legal (pending approval)